

Proclamation

In Recognition of Hawai'i **Invasive Species Awareness Week**

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council reminds us that Hawai'i has a unique ecological history as a home to numerous native species, many found nowhere else in the world; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council recalls to us that Hawai'i's native species evolved in the absence of large land mammals and other species commonly found in mainland habitats, making our local environment particularly sensitive to the introduction of species from other parts of the world; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council highlights that the State Legislature has declared that "the silent invasion of Hawai'i by... pests is the single greatest threat to Hawai'i's economy and natural environment and to the health and lifestyle of Hawai'i's people"; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council underlines that the Abercrombie Administration cites as a key priority improving prevention, management, and response systems for invasive species; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council stresses that Hawai'i currently faces a number of critical threats from invasive species including potential introduction of the brown tree snake, expanding populations of little fire ants and coqui frogs, miconia, strawberry guava, and many others; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council recognizes that the first week of March has been designated by the National Invasive Species Council as National Invasive Species Awareness Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 3-9, 2014, as

"HAWAI'I INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK"

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the importance of preventing and controlling harmful invasive species in order to protect our natural resources, economy, and way of life.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-seventh day of February, 2014.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i